

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

1. (Currently Amended) A system for transporting bulk, ~~especially for transporting untreated drill cuttings,~~ the system comprising:

a tank for containing the bulk during transport, the tank having an output unit at the bottom of the tank for feeding the bulk out of the tank by pushing the bulk towards an output orifice in the tank bottom, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tank is arranged below deck on a ship and comprises an upper substantially cylindrical part and a lower frustoconical part that ends in a substantially flat bottom, the bottom being limited on its periphery by a side wall of the frustoconical part and having an inner dome or cone arranged centrally thereon, and ~~that~~ a positive displacement pump is arranged at a level lower than that of the tank bottom for receiving ~~the bulk~~ and advancing ~~them~~ the bulk through an unloading line, ~~which the~~ unloading line ~~has~~ having an essentially uniform cross section.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the unloading line is made from or has an internal coating of a material with a low friction coefficient, ~~e.g. a plastic material.~~

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) A system according to Claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the pump has a first feed screw with a greater feeding capacity than a second downstream feed screw.

5. (Currently Amended) A ~~tank for use in the~~ system according to Claim 1, ~~characterized in that the tank has an upper, substantially cylindrical part and a lower frustoconical part that ends in a substantially flat bottom, that the substantially flat bottom comprises an~~ wherein the output orifice ~~that~~ extends from ~~the~~ a side wall of the ~~conical~~ frustoconical part to

[[an]] the inner dome or cone ~~arranged essentially centrally on the flat bottom.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A tank system according to Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the dome or cone is formed by a hub in [[an]] the output unit, the hub ~~which comprises including~~ one or more arms arranged to rotate so as to transport the bulk towards the output orifice.

7. (Currently Amended) A tank system according to Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the output orifice has a valve, ~~preferably a gate valve,~~ arranged to assume several positions between fully closed and fully open, in order to control the output rate of the bulk.

8. (Currently Amended) A tank system according to Claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tank has a greatest diameter of at least 3 ~~metres~~ meters and no more than half the available inside width of the ship, that the side wall of the conical part has an angle of between 20° and 45°, and that the dome or cone has an angle that lies within the same limits.

9. (Currently Amended) ~~An output unit for use in the A~~ system according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6, ~~characterized in that it comprises a hub and one or more arms projecting from the hub, which hub is formed as a cone or a dome and is placed centrally in the bottom of the tank, and that~~ wherein the at least one arm extends from the hub to the periphery of the bottom.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~An output unit A~~ system according to Claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein at least one arm extends at least partway up along a side wall in a conical part of the tank.

11. (Currently Amended) A tank system according to Claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the output orifice has a valve, ~~preferably a gate valve,~~ arranged to assume several positions between fully closed and fully open, in order to control the output rate of the bulk.

12. (Currently Amended) A tank system according to Claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the tank has a greatest diameter of at least 3 ~~metres~~ meters and no more than half

the available inside width of the ship, that the side wall of the conical part has an angle of between 20° and 45°, and that the dome or cone has an angle that lies within the same limits.

13. (Currently Amended) A ~~tank system~~ according to Claim 7, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the tank has a greatest diameter of at least 3 ~~metres~~ meters and no more than half the available inside width of the ship, that the side wall of the conical part has an angle of between 20° and 45°, and that the dome or cone has an angle that lies within the same limits.

14. (New) A system according to Claim 7, wherein the valve is a gate valve.

15. (New) A system according to Claim 11, wherein the valve is a gate valve.

16. (New) A system for transporting bulk, the system comprising:

a tank for containing the bulk during transport, the tank having an upper, substantially cylindrical part and a lower, frustoconical part that ends in a substantially flat bottom, the substantially flat bottom defining an output orifice and having an inner dome or cone arranged essentially centrally thereon;

an output unit at the bottom of the tank for feeding the bulk towards the output orifice in the tank bottom; and

a pump arranged at a level lower than that of the tank bottom for receiving and advancing the bulk through an unloading line, the unloading line having an essentially uniform cross section;

wherein the tank is arranged below deck on a ship and the output orifice extends from a side wall of the frustoconical part to the inner dome or cone.

17. (New) A system according to Claim 16, wherein the output unit further comprises a hub, the hub having one or more arms arranged to rotate so as to transport the bulk towards the output orifice.

18. (New) A system according to Claim 16, wherein the output orifice has a valve arranged to assume several positions between fully closed and fully open, in order to

control the output rate of the bulk.

19. (New) A system according to Claim 16, wherein the tank has a greatest diameter of at least 3 meters and no more than half the available inside width of the ship, and the side wall of the conical part and the cone-like output unit have an angle between 20° and 45°.

20. (New) A system for transporting bulk, the system comprising:

a tank for containing the bulk during transport, the tank having an upper substantially cylindrical part, a lower inwardly converging part, and a bottom, the bottom being limited on its periphery by a side wall of the lower inwardly converging part and containing a convex dome in the center, the periphery of the bottom and the convex dome defining a trough therebetween, the trough containing an output orifice between the periphery and the convex dome;

an output unit arranged within the tank for feeding the bulk in the trough towards the output orifice, where it falls by gravity; and

a pump arranged at a level lower than that of the tank bottom for receiving and advancing the bulk through an unloading line having an essentially uniform cross section;

wherein the tank is arranged below deck on a ship.